

Table1 – Study levels of evidence recommended by the Oxford Centre for Evidence Based Medicine and types of studies taken into account.

Level of recommendation	Level of Evidence	Type of studies
A	Consistent level-1 studies	Randomized clinical trials and consistent randomized clinical trials.
B	Consistent level-2 or -3 studies or extrapolation from level-1 studies	Cohort, case-control, ecological and systematic reviews of consistent cohort or case-control studies or low quality randomized clinical trials.
C	Level-4 studies or extrapolations from level-2 or -3 studies	Case series, cohort studies and low quality case-control studies.
D	Level-5 evidence or troublingly inconsistent or inconclusive studies of any level	Expert opinion with non-critical evaluation or based on basic subjects(physiological or animal studies).

Source: (Centre for evidence – Based Medicine, 2009)